

Nevada Indian Commission
Education Advisory Committee for Native American & Alaska Natives
May 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Main site: Western Nevada College, 2201 West College Parkway, Carson City, NV
Videoconference sites: Fallon, NV; Las Vegas, NV; Elko, NV; Reno, NV; McDermitt, NV

Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Indian Commission; Fredina Drye-Romero, Education Programs Professional – Indian Education, Nevada Department of Education; Lynn Manning, Chairperson, Indian Education Advisory Committee and Indian Education Program Coordinator, Washoe County School District; Kari Emm, Transfer Recruitment Coordinator, University of Nevada, Reno; San San Tin, Education Director, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; Starla Serawop, Native Workforce Development, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada; Gayleen Roy, Education Director, Yerington Paiute Tribe; Cheryl Nelson, Clark County School District

I. Invocation

- a. The invocation was given by Sherry Rupert.

II. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Lynn Manning called the meeting to order at 9:35am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

III. Initial Public Comment

- a. There were no initial public comments made at the meeting.

IV. For Possible Action: Approval of March 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes

- a. Sherry requested a change under those present at the meeting. Lynn Manning is the Indian Education Program Coordinator for the Washoe County School District.
- b. Lynn wanted a change made under Item VII, letter k. “Every District Principal enrolls in a module and Lynn is facilitating a module entitled ‘Race and the Power of an Illusion’.”
- c. With the changes made Kari Emm motioned to approve the minutes of March 12, 2012, seconded by Fredina Drye-Romero. Motion carried.

V. Committee Member Comments and Announcements

- a. Sherry announced the repainting of the historic Stewart “S” will take place on June 2, 2012. The Nevada Indian Commission is looking for volunteers to repaint the “S” and donations are being sought for paint supplies and food.
- b. The Stewart Father’s Day Powwow will be held June 15-17, 2012.
- c. The “Preserve Stewart” Stewart Indian School Alumni Reception and Silent Auction will be held June 14, 2012 at the Courtyard Marriott in Carson City.
- d. Sherry noted Barbara Garcia from the Washoe Tribe brought a student to a recent Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee meeting. The student is interested in learning more about State/Tribal relations.
- e. Lynn announced a multicultural senior recognition ceremony will be held tonight and students from different ethnic codes will be represented. The ceremony will include 150 students who will receive medals, but they have been told the medals cannot be worn at graduation. Also, this Wednesday a youth summit will be held

at Pyramid Lake High School and there will be a presentation by Arnold Thomas who is a suicide prevention and motivational speaker.

- f. Fredina mentioned one of the first students to receive the Sierra Nevada College Native American scholarship Esha Hoffer is graduating. Lynn added Kelly Harry also finished her Master's Degree at Sierra Nevada College.

VI. Indian Education Updates

- a. Fredina from the Nevada Department of Education reported the Indian Education Summit in March was well received and evaluations from the Summit gave good suggestions for next year. Also, Fredina said she will be organizing a curriculum retreat in June and will be attending the Bureau of Indian Education Conference June 11-14th in Denver, CO.
- b. San San Tin from the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) reported there will be a Head Start graduation ceremony on May 19th, this is the last week for the language programs and on June 7th there will be a luncheon for high school seniors with RSIC tribal council. Lastly, San San announced Kelly Harry is the new RSIC Language Program Coordinator.
- c. Gayleen Roy from the Yerington Paiute Tribe reported they are preparing for the June 20th awards banquet at the Yerington Tribal Gym for graduates and will be hosting a youth conference June 12-14th. Also, language classes will be ending this week and the Wovoka Committee hosted a family tree and round dance gathering last weekend in which Wovoka stories and family connections were shared.
- d. Cheryl Nelson from the Clark County School District reported the Indian Education Opportunities Program will be honoring 60 American Indian graduates on May 17th. Also, the college tour for students went well this year and they are working on organizing a possible tour of Washington DC for 11th graders that will be a pilot program for good students. Sherry suggested the students meet with Congressional Delegates and Senator Reid hosts a breakfast each Thursday morning for visitors from Nevada.
- e. Stacey Montooth from the Churchill County School District reported next week she will be taking 8th graders on a walking tour of the high school in which students will have the opportunity to meet with the high school principal and school counselors. Also, Stacey said she and Dina did a presentation on curriculum at the Nevada Department of Education's Mega Conference and she is working on matching students with teachers in the high school.
- f. Lynn Manning from the Washoe County School District reported over 20 attendees from the District attended the 2012 Indian Education Summit in March at the University of Nevada, Reno. Also, Lynn said she presented at the annual Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Youth Conference. At the Conference students were encouraged to interact and participate by collecting charms at each information booth to make a bracelet which was very successful. Lastly, Lynn said after school programs end this month and after looking at data and survey results a committee made up of representatives from different areas collectively made a decision on a new budget for the Title VII program.
- g. Kari Emm from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) reported commencement will be held on May 19th and this year is one of the largest graduating classes with 61 American Indian graduates. Also, the UNR Native American Alumni Association held a reception on May 8th for graduates and the Native American Student Organization held a fun run with about 15 participants. Kari stated she would like to hold a financial aid workshop for tribal education directors to

discuss deadlines because some students are still not receiving their tribal funding on time. San San added RSIC sends a letter to UNR if funding will be late and they have an account set up at the University which helps avoid delays. Lastly, Kari said she will be doing one-on-one meetings with students enrolled in the co-admissions program and deadlines are coming up soon for both transfer students and incoming freshman.

- h. Starla Serawop from the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada reported the Native Workforce Development Program is doing outreach by going out to the various tribal communities. Also, they are focusing on students enrolled in their summer youth program, but others can still apply. Lastly, Starla said she will be attending the Nevada Women's Money Conference on Saturday, June 9th at the Siena Hotel in Reno.

VII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. Sherry asked Committee members to e-mail her agenda items for the next meeting.

VIII. For Possible Action: Scheduling and Location of Next Indian Education Advisory Committee Meeting

- a. The next Indian Education Advisory Committee meeting was scheduled for July 9, 2012 from 9:30-11:30am.

IX. Final Public Comment

- a. There were no final public comments at the meeting.

X. Adjournment

- a. Starla Serawop motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Fredina Drye-Romero. Motion carried.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.